

REGIONAL CONTINUUM OF CARE COUNCIL

February 26, 2008

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER at 10:05 AM

ACTIONS - STEERING COMMITTEE ELECTIONS:

Annual Election: The RCCC sustained a consensus vote to adopt the slate of Steering Committee representatives as presented in January. Ratify Steering Committee slate. (two abstaining)

Change in Steering Committee Term of Service: The membership voted to elect 5 seats annually, for two-year terms of service. These five seats represent one-half of the dedicated and open representative seats. During 2008, current representatives will be polled for their willingness to accept an additional term in January 2009, so that two year rotations can be staggered. (MSC – two abstaining).

Changes in representation: Kathy Houck introduced Lynda Brophy as the new designated representative from the San Diego Housing Commission. The RCCC recognized Ms. Houck for year years of service to the group and encouraged her continued participation. Hannah Cohen requested that she be identified as representing homeless Seniors rather than chronic individuals

HUD - SHP

Scores and Highlights from 2007 competition: Peggy Goldstein and Dolores Diaz provided a summary of out success in the 2007 competition. All projects that requested funds were provisionally awarded. The national funding line this year rose to approximately 92 points of 100, signaling the heightened level of competition and the need for the RCCC to be diligent in planning for 2008. Copies of the scoring sheets were distributed and will be made available electronically.

Preparation for Next Cycle – Steering Committee / Rating and Ranking

HUD has announced that the 2008 SHP competition will be filed electronically. The typical spring calendar of events for the NOFA will be adjusted to include registration of project applicants in the DUNS, Grants.Gov / CCR system, registration of the CoC, and a later NOFA due date. It is anticipated that the release of the programmatic section of the NOFA will not be released until June this year. Organizations are encouraged to plan ahead for this schedule change.

In preparation for the NOFA, the region needs to update the Support Services Grid and the Housing Inventory Chart. Agency representatives are alerted to respond as quickly as possible when information is requested by the Regional Task Force, or committee members.

The Steering Committee will address two specific program concerns for the 2008 scoring process and will report back at the March meeting.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Data Committee – Deborah Lester presented the Data Quality Awards to organizations and staff who have contributed to improving the data quality in the HMIS system. Agencies are reminded to input all data by Friday March 21st. The RTFH will run a point-in-time shelter count report for January 30th on Monday March 24th. This count is then used by the local community and in formula allocations, so please be sure to complete entry by the 21st. A series of trainings for

HMIS users will be provided in March and April. Refer to handout for details or see http://www.rtfhsd.org/index_his_users.html.

Legislative / Advocacy – Rosemary Johnson, Kathy Houck, Hannah Cohen – A full report was distributed electronically. Highlights include:

Federal Report: Housing Budget Hearings: The Subcommittee on Transportation and Housing and Urban Development of the House Appropriations Committee, held a hearing on the FY 2009 HUD Budget and Members of Congress expressed their strong support for McKinney Homeless Assistance Grants, as well as mainstream HUD programs targeted to very low income individuals. The Senate will also hear the funds request.

The Proposed Budget: would increase McKinney-Vento proposed funding however less than is necessary for renewals of permanent supportive housing, prisoner reentry, or a rapid re-housing for families. **Youth Interagency Group:** President Bush signed an Executive Order initiating an Interagency Working Group on Youth Programs. This group will be comprised of Federal Agency representatives to help support communities and organizations working on behalf of our American youth. A new website, Helping America's Youth, will build upon the Community Guide to Helping America's Youth. Reports from the second **National Symposium on Homelessness Research** is distributing ten reports compiled by leading researchers and practitioners. **Violence against homeless:** The New York Times recently reported that violence against homeless people is rising, and the attackers are mostly teenagers and young adults. According to a preliminary count by the National Coalition for the Homeless and the National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty, most of the more than 142 unprovoked attacks on homeless people in 2007 were in Florida. Nationwide, such attacks rose about 65 percent from 2005.

State Report: Housing California registration is open for the 2008 conference in Sacramento. To register, go to www.housingca.org. The **California Budget Project** has published *Locked out 2008: The Housing Boom and Beyond*. It charts the continuing gap between incomes and the cost of housing in California. It notes, among other trends, that California has the second most expensive rental housing in the nation, and that a minimum wage worker would need to work 83 hours weekly (more than two fulltime jobs) to afford a fair-market priced studio unit. The report is available at www.cbp.org... Residency restrictions imposed by **Jessica's law** have caused hundreds of sex offenders to become homeless around the state, and the problem is expected to worsen as approximately 350 new parolees a month are subject to the law. Currently the state lacks housing or services for parolees in finding a place to live.

Local Report: The **City of Carlsbad** earned kudos for its decision to help La Posada de Guadalupe homeless shelter to create 72 beds for farmworkers. The funding is the first installment in \$2 million that has been set aside for the project. The County of San Diego and the Calif. Department of Housing and Community Development have planned a joint meeting beginning at 10 a.m. Tuesday, March 4, at 3989 Ruffin Road, to describe and respond to questions regarding the NOFA for **local MHSA funds for permanent supportive housing for homeless youth**. For more info, contact Shelley Bailey at m Bailey@hcd.ca.gov. San Diego Housing Federation executive director Tom Scott is at the **National Low Income Housing Coalition national conference** and will be meeting with local congressional representatives to lobby for issues related to housing and homelessness... **Alpha Project** of San Diego, which is managing the 200 bed city of San Diego homeless tent at Petco Park, reports that 70% of shelter residents are older than 60... A recent survey by the San Diego County Medical Society indicates that a rising percentage of doctors will no longer accept Medicare, Medi-Cal, and County Medical Services payments. Get help with **Earned Income Tax Credit** from the United Way and from the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA) offered by the IRS. The IRS also sponsored Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE). Info about that program is available by

contacting 1 800 829-1040....**The city of San Diego Permanent Homeless Facility Task Force** met Thursday, Feb. 21 and heard recommendations from a new PTECH Intake Committee composed of local homeless shelter providers. The report called for a 200,000 square foot facility that would include 500 beds and a wide range of services. Plans to site a 45 unit **affordable housing complex in Ramona** that had been proposed by Community Housing Works have been shelved because purchase negotiations failed...

Rating and Ranking – Chair Shanda Roberts reported that the R & R group is reviewing the HUD scores and will concentrate their work on scoring after the NOFA is released. In the meantime, the committee continues to seek members who are eligible to serve on the Scoring Group. Please contact Ms. Roberts if interested.

Manual Preparation Group – Angela Bull reported that a revised draft of the RCCC Membership Manual is being reviewed by the Steering Committee and is expected to be available to the full RCCC for review by the March meeting. Members thanked Ms. Bull for her leadership on this task.

Population Estimate / Homeless Count – Kiefer Rich thanked members for the participation in the January Point-In-Time count. Press releases seemed to help get the word out when the count date was changed this year due to rain. The total of tally sheets is still in progress. All counters are reminded to send the hard (paper) copies of their forms to Keifer at the RTFH. RCCC members thanked Keifer for creating the new automated communication systems and for his willingness to manage this task on short notice.

Homeless Representative Task Group – This subgroup is seeking new members, It was suggested that the HRTG consider contacting Self-Reliance House for individuals who may be able to participate, or as a method of communicating / gathering information from homeless persons not connected to other services.

Housing Liaisons – Approximately \$3.24 million in MHSA housing funds will be available to the County of San Diego. In cooperation with MHS - County HCD has released a NOFA. Dolores Diaz made copies of the NOFA available to those who were interested.

Employment Committee – The Symposium on Understanding Homelessness has published a summary of research on Homelessness and Employment that can be made available to RCCC members.

PTECH – Pat Leslie, Mat Packard, and Bob McElroy chair three of the PTECH Implementation Subcommittees. The subgroup chairs are scheduled to meet in March with a full Implementation Committee meeting scheduled in early April. The Five original subgroups were expanded by the creation of an Centralized Intake Center committee separately convened by the United Way.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Women's Resource Fair – March 2st at the Concourse- Contact Rosemary Johnston for more information; Dates for **Street Ambassadors workshop** and for the **Year Round Shelter Committee** lead by District II – City of San Diego were announced.

ADJOURNMENT